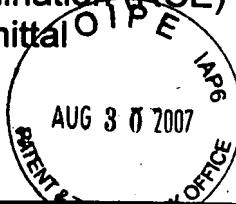


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**Request  
for  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal**Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/726,182
Filing Date	12/02/2003
First Named Inventor	Brian W. Brandner
Art Unit	3727
Examiner Name	Shawn M. Braden
Attorney Docket Number	588AW [2681.3184.001]

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**  
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

- b. ☐ Enclosed

- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply  
ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)  
iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  
iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)  
b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

- The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.  
The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0852. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)  
ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)  
iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 910.00 enclosed

- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Signature	<i>William H. Francis</i>	Date	1/26/07
Name (Print/Type)	William H. Francis	Registration No.	25,335

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Signature	<i>Shirley A. Langley</i>	Date	01/26/2007
Name (Print/Type)	Shirley A. Langley		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

**BRIAN BRANDNER**  
1289 Patricia Blvd.  
Kingsville, Ontario, Canada N9Y 2R3  
(519)-733-2599

## **WORK HISTORY**

*June 2006 to present*     **TI Group Automotive Systems** Auburn Hills, Mi

Engineering Specialist

- Implementing new technology to a production fuel tank that we developed while I was in R&D
- Co-coordinating component designs, tooling, testing prototype and production vehicle builds.
- Launch of the D platform tanks for spring 2007 production builds.
- Work with purchasing, engineering, validation, finance and manufacturing for successful launch while maintaining company policy, profitability and timing.
- Manage development projects

## **ENGINEERING DESIGN MANAGER**

*Nov 2002- June 2006*     **TI Group Automotive Systems** Warren Mi, Transfer to Auburn Hills, Mi

Design Plastic Fuel Tank Systems.

Co coordinated the design office move and facility planning and preparation.

Required to safeguard and assure the quality of all Fuel Systems CAD data.

Responsibilities included:

- Training, publishing procedures, scheduling, quoting, hiring, reviewing and disciplining the department of 13 personnel, reduced to 10.
- Preparing and managing a 1.6 million dollar budget, and implemented cuts to 1.2million to do the same work. New technology was applied to do more work with less resources.
- Posses knowledge in the latest design and CAE software and hardware application, while implementing continual improvement.
- Devise measurements of design effectiveness and coordinate with global counterparts on issues of data management and sharing resources.

Committies:

- PLM integration
- Automated CAE and virtual product development

Requested by MSC software to be on their advanced software development committee.

I was co-presenter at the Dearborn Virtual Product Development Conference in 2003 where over 1000 were in attendance. I was presenter again in San Jose in 2006

*1997-Nov 2002*     **TI Group Automotive Systems** Windsor, Ontario

Design Plastic Fuel Tank Systems.

## **SR DESIGNER/Program Mgr- R&D**

Responsible for Product Data management and communication to Daimler Chrysler, administering design requests, offlines, backups, and supervising all Catia Design. Responsible for Catia systems, software maintenance and operations. Compiled and wrote Blow molding design standards and procedures. Promoted to Sr. Designer. Selected and transferred to the R&D Department in January of 1999 for my work ethic and innovative approach gained in the wide range of past work experiences. Supervised product development, followed up on tooling. This was also combined with a program management role. Assisted in developing industry changing PZEV technology known as CVR.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

Applied for several U.S. patents, 4 have been granted and 2 are pending with high potential for patent.

Aquired extensive knowledge in Thermoforming (VACUUM) and IR welding

**Tooling Technology Centre** Windsor, Ontario

Producer of compression injection molds and related tooling

*1994-1997*

**CAD SYSTEMS MANAGER / PRODUCT DESIGN LEADER**

Hardware maintenance of Sun, IBM RS6000, VAX, and Prime operating systems in multiple buildings using LAN's and WAN's running PDGS, Catia, CGS, Cimline, DEA-surfer (ICEM-Surf), various direct translators and IGES translators. All backups software updates and data communications via BBS, ISDN, and Internet. Was selected to 3 TQM committees, as well as a representative on the ISO 9000 board. Central data management as well as design program management, distribution and workload control. Quote assistance to sales personnel and project managers.

*1992-1994*

**SENIOR PRODUCT DESIGNER (CATIA)**

Data management of entire Chrysler NS cladding packages, (3) 42 parts total, including BIW reference files and reports thereof. Produced CATIA models adhering to all Chrysler standards. Coordinated changes and distribution of data to appropriate departments as well as submission and liaison with CTC. GD&T drawings per Chrysler specification were also produced. Assisted in CATIA SYSTEM MANAGEMENT. AIX and UNIX trouble shooting, data translations, transfers, backups, offlines and scripts. Designed parts and molds for compression and injection molding.

PROGRAMS WORKED ON: Chrysler Lebaron pnls & NS Claddings, JX27 outer pnls Kenworth hoods, FIAT airbag covers, ERGO concepts and feasibility.

*1990-1992*

**GENERAL MANAGER - MODEL DIVISION**

Supervision of 25 model and fixture makers, NC programmers and machinists, and CMM/QC personnel. Scheduling, quoting, cost control and personnel management while training and restructuring the workforce to implement and utilize new technology efficiently.

Simultaneous build and management of multiple model programs each consisting of several models. Develop tool design, slides, lifters, parting lines (shear) prototype tooling and parts. Subcontract and follow-up on work placed to other model shops. All types of fixtures, CMM, drill, and bonding. Implemented ideas which saved 50% of the time and cost on the EAO IP program which was followed on subsequent programs.(cutting approach)

PROGRAMS WORKED ON: Porche deck and fenders, Suzuki outer body pnls, FMC EAO IP-retainer & skins Chrysler LH IP and components, NS claddings, S-body claddings, WINN88, Low pressure inj CK door (GM), Peterbuilt airdams etc.

**BRIAN BRANDNER (cont'd)**

*1982-1990*

**PRODUCT DESIGN / NC PROGRAMMER**

Design of plastic components using trimmed surfaces, wireframe and detail/layout drawings on PDGS. NC programming of steel molds and wood models using PDGS-NC. Mold 3D surfaces from 2D drawings, included development of parting line and shears.

**MODEL MAKER NC PROGRAMMER-Model Division Sparton**

Taught, supervised and scheduled all NC machining and programming for the model division using the Tarus system. -quoting and shop floor support. Hand-worked, painted and Styled class A models to conform to OEM stylists demands. Numerous prototype parts made for OEM's including Fiberglass vacuum bag techniques and urethane parts.

**MODEL MAKER PATTERN MAKER -Master Models Windsor, Ontario**

Completed apprenticeship, worked on the bench, then operated large 3 axis NC mills, digitizing, boring mill operation, and conventional duplicating (steel & carbons for EDM).

**EDUCATION****UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR Windsor, Ontario, Canada**

1977-1981

**BACHELOR OF COMMERCE / HONOURS BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Also earned a Certificate of Personnel Management

**TRAINING**

CATIA V5 Drafting, Assemblies, Solids, GSM	Oct-04
CATIA V5 Fundamentals (1 week)	Feb-00
CATIA SOLIDS AND PARAMETRICS(1 week)	Apr-99
CHRYSLER SUPPLIER 2000 (3 days)	Feb-98
BASIC UNIX -course 1010 (1 week)	Oct-94
AIX SYSTEM ADMIN -St. Clair (1 week)	Sept-94
SUN OS 5.X System Administration (3 days)	Aug-94
PDGS SYSTEMS ADMIN (1 week)	Aug-94
DUCT -Basic surfacing and line work (1 week)	Jun-94
CHRYSLER GD&T 101 -beginning GD&T (1 week)	Mar-93
CHRYSLER STANDARDS GD&T- (3 days)	Jan-93
FAB CATIA- Advanced Curves & Surfaces (1 week)	Nov-92
FAB CATIA- Basic 3D Design Techniques (1 week)	Nov-92
FAB CATIA- Basic 2D Design Techniques (1 week)	Nov-92
PDGS - NC (1 week)	Dec-88
PDGS ADVANCED SURFACING -in-house (1 week)	May-88
PDGS 3D SURFACE & DESIGN (2 weeks)	Oct-88
TARUS 3D & NC (4 weeks) -Sterling Heights	1986

Various miscellaneous training from on-site application engineers on Prime/PDGS & CATIA(FAB), Working knowledge of Lotus/Excel, Word Perfect, Microsoft Windows, Windows '95, Procomm Plus, internet and mail

Excel Introduction	Apr-00
Intermediate Word	Feb-00
Power Point 97	Jan-00
Intermediate Outlook 98 for Windows 95	Nov-98

**TRAINING SEMINARS**

Common Sense Manufacturing	Dec-99
Automotive Fuel Systems	Aug-99
Fuel Pumps	Oct-98
Hot Weather Testing	Sep-98
Fuels and Mobile Source Regulations	Sep-98

**REFERENCES: AVAILABLE ON REQUEST**